



**For Immediate Release**

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**Aptus Endosystems announces results from the Phase I Multicenter Trial of the Aptus™ Endovascular AAA Repair System: Results at 6 month and 1 year**

(Sunnyvale, CA) – Aptus Endosystems, Inc. announced that the results of the STAPLE-1 Multicenter Clinical Trial were presented by Dr. David Deaton during the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Peripheral Vascular Surgery Society Meeting held in conjunction with the Vascular Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA June 6, 2008. The STAPLE-1 clinical study evaluated the primary endpoints of safety and feasibility of the Aptus™ Endovascular AAA Repair System to treat abdominal aortic aneurysms (AAA).

The STAPLE-1 Clinical Study enrolled twenty-one (21) patients at five centers in the U.S., including the Albany Medical Center, Norfolk Sentara Hospital, Georgetown University Hospital, Emory University Hospital, and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Inclusion criteria incorporated standard indications for endovascular aneurysm repair, but with a proximal aortic neck length of 12mm and iliac landing zone of 10 mm, allowing for the inclusion of patients who might not otherwise be indicated for treatment with some current commercial devices. The STAPLE-1 treatment group met its primary thirty (30) day safety and feasibility endpoints, and all patients have been sequentially followed for 6 months, with more than half now followed for over 1 year. Secondary endpoints included freedom from endoleaks, rupture, migration and device integrity. No device migration of any length, and no Type I, III, or IV endoleaks were detected in the patient population out to 1 year. Significant aneurysm reduction occurred in 43% of the population at 6 months, and in 69% of patients at 1 year. No aneurysm enlargement was seen at 6 months or 1 year.

"The Aptus technology introduces an entirely new endovascular capability, namely endovascular stapling. These early results demonstrate a high degree of success with a new technology that has the promise of improving both acute, and more importantly, the long-term outcomes of endovascular aortic repair by creating a proximal fixation that mimics a hand-sewn anastomosis", stated Dr. Deaton, Chief of Endovascular Surgery at Georgetown University Hospital and Consultant Medical Officer to Aptus Endosystems.

The Aptus™ Endograft and EndoStapling System form a novel and promising new technology platform for the minimally invasive repair of abdominal aortic aneurysms (AAA). The technology utilizes a three piece modular endograft with a flexible main body and two fully supported limbs delivered via a 5.3 mm O.D. (16 Fr) delivery system, the smallest crossing profile of any endograft system. EndoStaples are delivered through an independent EndoStapling System, with the goal to approximate the durable outcomes of open surgical repair, with a less invasive procedure. Both the location and number of

EndoStaples delivered are actively controlled by the physician and provide for a customized solution for endograft fixation and sealing depending on the anatomical challenges of the individual patient.

The company is currently enrolling patients in the STAPLE-2 Pivotal Study of the Aptus™ Endovascular Aneurysm Repair System at 25 centers in the US, with a goal to enroll up to 155 treatment patients to demonstrate the safety and effectiveness of the system in a larger and broader population. “Our clinical investigators in the Phase 1 study have been incredibly supportive of this new and potentially ground-breaking technological advance in patient treatment”, said Bob H. Katz, President of Aptus Endosystems. “We are encouraged by the quick uptake in device utilization in the STAPLE-2 trial by the many new vascular surgeons and interventionalists who are participating in this study for the first time”, he added.

According to the American Heart Association (AHA) and American College of Cardiology (ACC), aneurysm rupture is the 13th leading cause of death in the US, affecting approximately 15,000 people per year. The incidence of aortic aneurysm disease increases every 10 years as the population ages in general. Early detection and diagnosis is increasingly possible as more sophisticated medical screening methods become available.

Aptus Endosystems is a privately held, emerging medical device company located in Sunnyvale, CA, that is engaged in the development of next generation minimally invasive endograft devices, delivery systems and fixation technology for the treatment of thoracic and abdominal aortic aneurysms. For more information, please visit [www.apтусendosystems.com](http://www.apтусendosystems.com).

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